

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 14-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, independent claims 1, 9 and 14 are amended, and claims 12 and 13 are canceled. The claims are amended to even more clearly distinguish over the applied references. Support for the features added to independent claims 1, 9 and 14 can be found in the original specification at, for example, paragraph [0348] and Fig. 50. Thus, no new matter is added.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner is requested to consider the information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith. The Examiner is requested to return an initialed PTO-1449 with the next Patent Office communication.

II. Objections to Drawings and Title

The Office Action objected to the drawings on the grounds that they do not show the features "an exchangeable holder removably mounted on the universal base, the exchangeable holder being shaped to be fitted to a surface that is not a surface with a maximum area of a specific one of the different models of digital cameras and also standardized for being mounted on the universal base." One example of such an exchangeable holder is shown as element 17 in original Fig. 50. Also, see the description provided in paragraphs [0346]-[0347]. As shown in Fig. 50, the exchangeable holder 17 is fitted to the lower surface of the camera. The lower surface of the camera is not a surface with a maximum area of the camera. Withdrawal of the drawing objection is requested.

The title has been amended according to one of the options provided in the Office Action. The Examiner is thanked for providing proposals. Withdrawal of the title objection is requested.

III. All Pending Claims are Patentable

Claims 1-13, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,001 to Berstis in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,106 to Helot et al. In addition, claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Berstis in view of Helot et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,947,075 to Niikawa. These rejections are moot with respect to canceled claims 12 and 13. These rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to independent claims 1, 9 and 14, as well as their dependent claims.

Neither Berstis, Helot et al. nor Niikawa discloses or suggests a universal base or digital image storage having the claimed combinations of features, including a printer built into the universal base or digital image storage, such that the universal base or digital image storage prints the digital images taken out from the digital camera. Accordingly, all pending claims are patentable over the applied references. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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MAC/ccs

Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Information Disclosure Statement
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: November 2, 2006

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